

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were pending in the patent application. By this amendment, Claims 1 and 24 are canceled and Claims 2, 4, 5, and 11 are amended, as further detailed below. The Examiner has rejected Claims 11-15 under 35 USC 112 as indefinite; has rejected Claims 1-3, and 5 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Ishii; has rejected Claim 24 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Ishii; has indicated that Claims 11-15 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 112 rejections; has indicated that Claims 4, and 6-10 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent format; and has indicated that Claims 16-23 are allowed.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 11-15 under 35 USC 112, the Examiner has stated that "the general management consoles" in line 12 lacks antecedent basis. Applicants respectfully assert that the antecedent basis is found in lines 8-9; but, have nonetheless amended the language to address the Examiner's concerns.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1-3, and 5 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Ishii, Applicants have canceled Claim 1. In response to the objection to, but allowability of, Claim 4, Applicants have amended the language of Claim 4

to include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Further, Applicants have changed the dependency of Claims 2 and 5 to now depend from allowable Claim 4. Applicants believe that the amendments place remaining Claims 2-5 in condition for allowance.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 24 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Ishii, Applicants have canceled the non-allowed claim.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 6-10 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent format. Applicants respectfully point out that Claim 6 is an independent claim, with Claims 7-10 depending therefrom. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the objection to Claims 6-10.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the amended claim language in light of the remarks, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
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